

Message Text

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44

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /123 W

----- 067094

R 230605Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1746

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4769

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH, XO

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN QUERY ON RTG ATTITUDE ON UTAPAO-DIEGO GARCIA
LINK

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

REFS: A. BANGKOK 4395 B. BANGKOK 2685

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY OFFICER (JOHN RIDLEY) CALLED ON US
MARCH 22 SAYING THAT CANBERRA HAD INQUIRED ABOUT THE RTG
ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR SUPPORT OF DIEGO GARCIA OUT OF
THAILAND. HE SAID HE HAD LITTLE BACKGROUND ON SUBJECT EXCEPT
FOR A CURSORY READING OF STORIES IN THE LOCAL ENGLISH PRESS.

2. WE POINTED OUT THAT THE SHARP CRITICISM IN THE LOCAL
PRESS (REF A) WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE OFFICIAL RTG
STATEMENT (REF B) WHICH SAID THAT THERE WERE BOTH GOOD
AND BAD ASPECTS TO THE DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION AND THAT IT
WOULD BE BETTER IF BIG POWER TENSION DID NOT DEVELOP
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WE ALSO PROVIDED COPIES OF THE
MARCH 13 AND 14 DOD PRESS BRIEFINGS AND THE SEYMOUR WEISS
STATEMENT BEFORE THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

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3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, WE CONFIRMED THAT SUPPORT
FLIGHTS DO GO FROM UTAPAO, ADDING THAT THE RTG KNOWS ABOUT THEM.
THE SUBJECT OF INDIAN OCEAN PATROL FLIGHTS FROM UTAPAO DID
NOT COME UP IN THE CONVERSATION.

4. COPIES REFTELS AND PERTINENT TEXTS POUCHED CAMBERRA.
KINTNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
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Draft Date: 23 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition Reason:
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